1 2 3 4 5	Aram Ordubegian (admitted pro hac vice) Christopher K.S. Wong (admitted pro hac vice) ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP 555 West Fifth Street, 48th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90013-1065 Telephone: 213.629.7400 Facsimile: 213.629.7401 aram.ordubegian@afslaw.com christopher.wong@afslaw.com	
6 7 8 9	Keith Chambers II (F0528) CHAMBERS LAW LLC Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 409 PMB 919 Box 10000 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: 670.234.9005/06 Facsimile: 670.235.9007 keith.chambers@chamberslawcnmi.com	
10 11	Attorneys for the Official Committee of General Unsecured Creditors	
12	IN THE UNITED ST.	ATES DISTRICT COURT
13	FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	
14	BANKRUPTCY DIVISION	
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	In re:  IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL (CNMI) LLC,  Debtor and Debtor in Possession.	Case No. 1:24-bk-00002 Chapter 11  DECLARATION OF MICHAEL E. SALZMAN IN SUPPORT OF:  FIRST INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF CHAMBERS LAW LLC, LOCAL COUNSEL TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF GENERAL UNSECURED CREDITORS, FOR ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD FROM May 24, 2024 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024
24		Hearing Date, Time and Location (ChST): Date: December 13, 2024
25		Time: 9:00 a.m. Location: 3rd Floor Courtroom1671
26		Gualo Rai Rd., Gualo Rai Saipan, MP 96950
27 28		Judge: Hon. Robert J. Faris

ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
LOS ANGELES

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#### **DECLARATION OF MICHAEL E. SALZMAN**

I, Michael E. Salzman, under penalty of perjury, declare as follows:

- 1. I am an individual over the age of twenty-one (21), an attorney admitted to practice in New York, and the general counsel of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP ("Hughes Hubbard"), a duly appointed member and Chair of the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the estate of the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC bankruptcy case (the "Committee"). I submit this declaration (the "Declaration") in support of the First Interim Fee Application of Chambers Law LLC, Local Counsel to the Official Committee of General Unsecured Creditors, for Allowance of Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses for the Period from May 24, 2024 Through September 30, 2024 (the "Application"). All capitalized terms used herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Application, unless otherwise defined.
- 2. The facts set forth in this Declaration are based upon Hughes Hubbard's extensive knowledge of bankruptcy proceedings, my and other attorneys at Hughes Hubbard's review of the relevant documents, information provided to me or verified by Chambers Law LLC, and my and other attorneys at Hughes Hubbard's personal opinions based upon our experience, knowledge, and information provided to us. I am authorized to submit this Declaration on behalf of Hughes Hubbard as Chair of the Committee, and, if called upon to testify, I would testify competently to the facts set forth herein.
- 3. On or about May 14, 2024, the Office of the United States Trustee formed the Committee. On or about May 21, 2024, the Committee retained Chambers Law LLC (the "Firm") to represent the Committee as local counsel.
- 4. I and other attorneys at Hughes Hubbard understand that Keith Chambers II is admitted to practice before this Court and has extensive general legal experience and knowledge on matter of Commonwealth law.
- 5. I and other attorneys at Hughes Hubbard reviewed the Application and the Firm's standard rates for services. Based upon representations made to the Committee by the Firm, we understand that those rates are generally consistent with the Firm's rates for comparable non-bankruptcy engagements and the billing rates and terms of other comparably skilled firms for

providing similar services. Based on these representations, Hughes Hubbard, as Chair of the Committee, believes these rates are reasonable.

- 6. During the Fee Period, the Firm provided services to the Committee. As Committee Chair, Hughes Hubbard is satisfied with the services that the Firm has provided, and believes that the Firm has assisted the Committee and the estate with respect to this case.
- 7. The Committee has received each monthly fee statement from the Firm. Hughes Hubbard has reviewed and approved these statements.
- 8. In its capacity as Chair of the Committee, Hughes Hubbard has received and reviewed the Application and the related billing statements for payment of fees and reimbursement of expenses for the Firm, and Hughes Hubbard and the Committee have no objection to the fees and expenses requested in the Application. The Committee therefore consents to the approval and payment of the Firm in accordance with their billing statements and as set forth in the Application.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024, at New York, New York.

MICHAEL E. SALZMAN

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I hereby certify that on November 7, 2024, I caused the forgoing document to be filed with the Clerk of Court for the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands, Bankruptcy Division, using the CM/ECF System. A true and correct copy of the said pleading has been served on all counsel of record via the Court's CM/ECF System.

Executed this 7th day of November, 2024.

ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW LOS ANGELES

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/s/ Aram Ordubegian
Aram Ordubegian